AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An image processor ~~for image correction on image data of lightness, saturation and hue~~, comprising:

a memory for storing image data of an image; and

an image corrector for correcting lightness, saturation and hue of the image data stored in the memory, said image corrector including:

a contrast corrector for correcting a value of lightness to change contrast of ~~an~~ the image; a maximum saturation determinator for determining maximum values of saturation for the values of the lightness before and after the correction of said contrast corrector; and

a saturation corrector for correcting a value of saturation in accordance with said maximum values of saturation determined by said maximum saturation determinator.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image processor as claimed in claim 1, wherein said saturation corrector calculates a ratio of the maximum value of the saturation after the correction to that before the correction and corrects the value of the saturation by using said ratio.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image processor as claimed in claim 1, wherein said saturation corrector does not execute the correction when the maximum value of the saturation after the correction is smaller than that before the correction.

- 2 -

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image processor as claimed in claim 1, wherein said maximum saturation determinator has a table of values of hue, lightness, and maximum saturation and determines the maximum value of the saturation with reference to the table.

5. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for image correction ~~on image data of lightness, saturation and hue~~, comprising:

reading image data of an image into a memory; and

performing correction of lightness, saturation and hue of said image data in the memory including carrying out the steps of:

~~a lightness correction step of~~ correcting a value of lightness to change contrast of ~~an~~ the image;

~~a determination step of~~ determining maximum values of saturation for the values of the lightness before and after the correction in said step of correcting a value of lightness ~~correction step~~; and

~~a saturation correction step of~~ correcting a value of saturation in accordance with said maximum values of saturation determined in said ~~determination~~ determining step.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image processing method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said ~~saturation correction~~ step of correcting a value of saturation calculates a ratio of the maximum value of the saturation after the correction to that before the correction and corrects the value of the saturation by using said ratio.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The image processing method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said ~~saturation correction~~ step of correcting a value of saturation is not executed when the maximum value of the saturation after the correction is smaller than that before the correction.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~for image correction on image data of lightness, saturation and hue, comprising:~~ <u>comprising a computer usable medium, having encoded thereon a computer readable program for correcting lightness, saturation and hue of image data by performing the steps of:</u>

~~a lightness correction step of~~ correcting a value of lightness to change contrast of an image;

~~a determination step of~~ determining maximum values of saturation for the values of the lightness before and after the correction in said <u>step of correcting a value of</u> lightness ~~correction step:;</u> and

~~a saturation correction step of~~ correcting a value of saturation in accordance with said maximum values of saturation determined by said ~~determination~~ step <u>of determining</u>.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> computer program product as claimed in claim 8, wherein said ~~saturation correction~~ step <u>of correcting a value of saturation</u> calculates a ratio of the maximum value of the saturation after the correction to that before the correction and corrects the value of the saturation by using said ratio.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ <u>The</u> computer program product as claimed in claim 8, wherein said saturation correction step is not executed when the maximum value of the saturation after the correction is smaller than that before the correction.

11. (Withdrawn) An image processor for image correction on image data of lightness, saturation and hue, comprising:

a setter for setting saturation correction factor;

a maximum saturation determinator for determining a maximum value of saturation for a value of lightness of each pixels; and

a saturation corrector for correcting a value of saturation in accordance with said saturation correction factor and said maximum value of saturation determined by said maximum saturation determinator.

12. (Withdrawn) An image processor as claimed in claim 11, wherein said saturation corrector multiples the saturation correction factor and said maximum value of saturation, and then adds it to a value of saturation for each pixel.

13. (Withdrawn) An image processing method for image correction on image data of lightness, saturation and hue, comprising the steps of:

setting saturation correction factor;

determining a maximum value of saturation for a value of lightness of each pixels; and

correcting a value of saturation in accordance with said saturation correction factor and said maximum value of saturation determined by said determining step.

14. (Withdrawn) An image processing method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said correcting step multiples the saturation correction factor and said maximum value of saturation, and then adds it to a value of saturation for each pixel.

15. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for image correction on image data of lightness, saturation and hue, comprising the steps of;

setting saturation correction factor;

determining a maximum value of saturation for a value of lightness of each pixels; and

correcting a value of saturation in accordance with the saturation correction factor and said maximum value of saturation determined in said determining step.

16. (Withdrawn) A computer program product as claimed in claim 15, wherein said correcting step multiples said saturation correction factor and said maximum value of saturation, and then adds it to a value of saturation for each pixel.